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(*b*) whether they are not permitted to go beyond those centres even when the ryots seek advice and guidance?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A taluk is roughly divided into three or four areas and a centre is chosen for each area. Demonstrators concentrate their attention in these areas. While working in these areas they are expected to visit neighbouring villages and bring to the notice of the villagers the improvements effected in the centres. They attend to urgent calls, whenever received, from neighbouring villages.

Supply of a diseased stud bull to the Indukur Rural Reconstruction Committee.

* 216 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Agricultural department supplied a buffalo stud bull to the Indukur Rural Reconstruction Committee during the year and if so, when and for what price;

(*b*) whether when the animal reached its destination, it was found to be suffering from stringhalt and to be dragging one of its hind legs and the fact was confirmed by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Nellore, who inspected the animal a week later and declared the disease incurable and the animal unfit for breeding purposes; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) is in the affirmative, the officer responsible for the choice and despatch of a diseased and incompetent bull?

A.—(*a*) A stud bull at a concession price of Rs. 40 was supplied on 6th March 1932.

(*b*) The animal is reported to have been perfectly sound in health before and on the date of despatch, viz., 6th March 1932. The Veterinary Surgeon, Nellore, examined the animal towards the end of March 1932 and advised the owner to have the animal sent up for further examination and treatment. The bull was sent to the hospital on 19th July 1932, admitted as an in-patient for "chronic luxation of the Patella" and discharged on 16th August 1932, with the advice that it should be given a long course of rest and nourishing diet, as the animal made little or no progress.

(*c*) This does not arise.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"It is stated here in answer to clause (*a*) 'A stud bull at a concession price of Rs. 40 was supplied on 6th March 1932.' May I know whether the concession is the usual concession generally allowed in the case of all bulls supplied by the Agricultural department?"

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The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I want notice of the question."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the stud bull was one which was already in the farm or whether it was purchased from outside? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Has the bull been exchanged since? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Notice."

Medical Administration

Competence of the District Medical Officer, Ramnad, to treat medical and surgical cases.

* 217 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of years that the present District Medical Officer of Ramnad (Rao Bahadur Dr. K. Raghavendra Rao) has been in the Public Health Department;

(*b*) whether during that period he has been in touch with the curative side of medicine; and

(*c*) whether he is now competent to treat medical and surgical cases ?

A.—(*a*) For over 17 years including service in the Corporation of Madras.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) He is considered competent to do the work to which he has been appointed.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to state the reason as to why he has not been engaged in medical and surgical cases? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Evidently the Surgeon-General has not found him fit for such a work."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether he was given a refresher course before his being posted as District Medical Officer? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Not that I am aware of."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know the reason why that a medical man with so many years of service should not be asked to treat medical and surgical cases? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Because he was not considered fit for such an appointment."